

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION FROM  
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

DATE OF INFORMATION 1949

DATE DIST. 14 Feb 1950

NO. OF PAGES 3

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

## EFFORTS OF KUBAN' AGRICULTURAL WORKERS TO FULFILL PLANS

In spring 1949, the agricultural workers of Krasnodar Kray pledged that they would strengthen the kolkhozes, increase communal property, and harvest a big crop. They promised a sharp increase in the productivity of every acre in the kolkhozes and sovkhoses of wheat, cotton, corn, sunflower, clover, grass seeds, fruits, and vegetables, as well as an increase in the production of meat products. They promised to exceed the state plan for protective belt reforestation. Those in the kray who work with machines promised to carry through fine-tillage of 675 hectares with every 15-horsepower tractor, to save at least 5 percent fuel, and to lower the cost of tilling by 5 percent. Measures have also been taken to electrify kolkhozes, MTS, and sovkhoses. Electricity will be installed in 200 localities in 1949.

New methods were applied in spring 1949 in the sowing of crops for which the soil had been tilled mechanically. This permitted mechanized care of plants, reduction in manual labor, and a considerable increase of crops. The planting of corn over wide areas was accomplished by the furrow and square-nest methods. Hundreds of hand planters were produced for sowing corn, clover, and sunflower, and special devices were applied to tractor-operated sowing machines and cultivators.

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After the sowing, the peculiarities of the current spring season necessitated special care of the plants during the nursing period. Cold weather had delayed the growth of cultivated plants and made possible a rapid growth of weeds. Therefore, particular attention was given to the harrowing, weeding, and supplementary nourishment of plants. All the able-bodied in every cossack village and hamlet were enlisted, and thousands of teams were engaged in the nourishment and harrowing of winter crops.

The decree of the Council of Ministers USSR and the TsK VKP(b) concerning the 3-year (1949 - 1951) plan for the development of productive cattle raising was received with great enthusiasm by the agricultural workers of the Kuban'. The Kray Party Committee discussed the plan and decided that meat production in 1951 must be raised 2.5 times the amount produced in 1948; pork, 17 times; milk, 2.5 times; eggs, 15 times; and wool, 2 times. At the same time, the following increases were envisaged: cattle, 42.7 percent, including cows, 109.8 percent; sheep, 66.4 percent; hogs, 171.4 percent; and fowl, 376.5 percent.

The Party organs of the kray are attempting to bring about creative collaboration between scientists and agricultural workers. Agricultural research and educational institutes have been instructed to render all practical assistance to kolkhozes and sovkhoses in raising the standard of socialist agriculture by instituting therein the methods developed by Michurin. The All-Union Scientific Research Institute renders practical aid to the kolkhozes of eight rayons. In 41 kolkhozes, this institute carries on direct operations in the study and application of the best procedure in protective belt reforestation; it applies the methods of technical agronomy to obtain high yields of perennial grasses. It is growing hybrid sunflower seeds in 17 kolkhozes. It is applying extensive mechanization of methods in nursing sunflower plants over an area of 200,000 hectares. The following scientists come out regularly to give their practical assistance: V. E. Borkovskiy, laureate of the Stalin Award, V. S. Pustovoyt, Laureate of the Stalin Prize, and I. A. Minkevich, Ph. D. in Agriculture.

Likewise, the scientific workers of the State Selection Station give regular lectures, reports, and advice. Such aid has been given by the following: P. P. Lukyanenko, Laureate of the Stalin Prize, Professor A. I. Nosatovskiy of the Food Industry Institute, and A. K. Primyak, Deputy to the Supreme Soviet RSFSR.

The Kuban' is ready for the most decisive and complex period of agricultural operations, the harvesting of crops and storing of grain. In 1949, thousands of combines, 7,000 ordinary harvesting machines, and 50,000 choppers will be used; 77 percent of the grain crops are to be harvested with combines.

The workers of the Kuban' have pledged themselves to harvest the grain crops in 18-20 working days. To assure this, Party organizations are exerting great efforts to prepare men and tools. Particular emphasis is placed on timely preparation of combines, and this year the tempo is faster than in 1948. The most advanced MTS are those of the Otradnenskiy, Troitskiy, Shteingartskiy, Byelorecheski, and Staro-Minskiy rayons, which have completed their repairs in time and with excellent workmanship. All combines are equipped with grain catchers, straw-and-chaff accumulators, devices for unloading the combine while in motion, fire-prevention appliances, and electric lights for night work. In the MTS alone, 800 combines are equipped with units for husking the stubble simultaneously with the harvesting.

There is also great activity in connection with the preparation of cadres for harvesting and grain storing on the part of both the kolkhozes and MTS.

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The Plenum of the Kray Committee has announced to all Party, soviet, kolkhoz, and sovkhos organizations its intention to complete the harvesting by 15 August 1949.

The successful stocking of grain depends in large measure on timely and skillful preparation of all types of transport, and uninterrupted round-the-clock work to bring the grain to storage points. To this end, much automotive transport will be drawn from the cities. Railroad and shipping agencies are preparing their rolling stock and watercraft to transport the new grain. In this connection, the Caucasus railroads have begun a campaign for average daily engine runs of 500 kilometers.

Kray and Rayon Party committees are taking measures this year to carry out radiofication of hundreds of kolkhozes, to complete radiofication of all MTS and sovkhos, and to set up 18,500 controllable loud-speakers, as well as to install 16,000 receiving sets. In addition, the Kray Communications Department will install radio equipment in 500 kolkhoz brigades, and will inspect the radio sets already in the field camps and tractor brigades for necessary repairs.

Trade organizations are planning to bring into the village areas great quantities of consumers' goods: 8,000 radio sets, 4,175,000 rubles' worth of literature, and 1,200,000 rubles' worth of musical instruments. Moreover, sales of industrial and food products directly in the field are planned to the extent of 50 million rubles.

City Party organizations are also aiding the kolkhozes. Industrial enterprises in the cities have helped the kolkhozes, sovkhos, and MTS of the kray with spare parts, machines, and materials valued at one million rubles in a 5-month period.

Party organizations attach great importance to the publicizing of socialist competition. Results of the harvesting and grain storing are posted in all rayon centers, camps, kolkhozes, sovkhos, and MTS. Thousands of placards or posters are printed.

However, Party leadership in agriculture still has many shortcomings. Many Party organizations at the rayon level have not yet developed a strenuous effort for the proper care of kolkhoz crops, and there are still crops that have not been weeded. Not all the kolkhozes have eliminated irresponsibility and equalization of wages. Not everywhere has coordination been established between the operations of the tractor brigades, on the one hand, and the field brigades, on the other. Not everywhere have Party organizations reached the point where Communists not only do good work themselves, but are also organizers of socialist competition. The Party organization is taking measures to eliminate such shortcomings.

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